



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

---

615 Chestnut Street

Suite 1250

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4476

(215) 861-8200

For Immediate Release

December 29, 2009

### DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY IN WORK VISA FRAUD

PHILADELPHIA - Michael T. Glah, 48, Theresa M. Klish, 50, both of West Chester, PA, and Mary Gillin, 60, of Downingtown, PA, pleaded guilty today to a conspiracy that fraudulently shuttled illegal workers through the immigration system to obtain temporary work visas, announced Michael L. Levy. Glah owned and operated International Personnel Resources, a West Chester, Pennsylvania-based company that recruited workers from outside the United States for client businesses and then helped secure the work visas for those workers. Each of the defendants pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit visa fraud, and visa fraud before U.S. District Court Judge Berle M. Schiller. Glah also pleaded guilty to four additional counts of visa fraud, three counts of bringing illegal aliens into the United States, and one count of conspiracy to commit immigration fraud.

Between January 2003 and December 2008, IPR systematically applied for a greater number of temporary work visas than its client businesses needed. By inflating this number, IPR was able to create its own personal stockpile of approved visas (H-2B). Because each visa must be assigned to a person identified on the visa petition, the defendants randomly selected names from a Mexico City phone book, fabricating personal information, such as dates of birth and addresses, for the fraudulent petitions they submitted. If the visa petitions of IPR's clients were rejected, or if IPR's clients otherwise needed additional workers, the workers that IPR's clients wanted would be substituted in for the fabricated placeholder named in the fraudulent petition.

Sentencing is scheduled for March 29, 2010 for Glah and Gillin. Glah faces a maximum 95 years imprisonment, including a mandatory five year term of imprisonment, and up to a \$2.5 million fine; Gillin faces a maximum 15 years imprisonment, and up to a \$500,000 fine; Klish will be sentenced May 5, 2010 and faces a maximum 15 years imprisonment and up to a \$500,000 fine.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General, the State Department, and the U.S. Department of State and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kevin R. Brenner.

December 29, 2009

Page 2

**UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
EASTERN DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA  
Suite 1250, 615 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

**Contact: PATTY HARTMAN  
Media Contact  
215-861-8525**

*COPIES OF NEWS MEMOS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/pae>*